



# LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL  
EDUCATION COMMISSION

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*A Weekly Compilation of Environmental Education News from Across Louisiana*

## LEEC NEWS

### **GREEN SCHOOLS GRANTS PROGRAM**

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries' Environmental Education Commission (LEEC), in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE), is now accepting proposals for the new 2015-2016 Green Schools Grants program. Applications for amounts up to \$5000 will be accepted. The deadline for applications is May 11, 2015.

Find the official application guidelines at

<http://www.cain.lsu.edu/2015-2016-LEEC-Green-Schools-Grant-Guidelines> and fill out your application online at <http://www.cain.lsu.edu/2015-2016-LEEC-Green-Schools-Grant-Application>.

### **DISCOVERING BIODIVERSITY WORKSHOP**

Educator Workshop

June 25, 2015 — 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Prien Lake Elementary School, Lake Charles, LA

Participants in this exciting, dynamic workshop will receive hands-on instruction from experienced educators and biologists, get updates on Louisiana threatened and endangered species management initiatives, and go home with strategies and materials for including biodiversity instruction in their class curriculum.

Find more information on the LEEC website at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/eec>. Download the event flyer at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/document/39109-discovering-biodiversity-flyer/flyer.pdf> and the registration form at [http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/doc/document/39108-discovering-biodiversity-registration-form/registration\\_form.doc](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/doc/document/39108-discovering-biodiversity-registration-form/registration_form.doc).

## LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

### **PARTNERSHIP FORMED TO REFOREST CROPLAND IN LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY**

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and USDA, with funding from Disney, are collaborating to enroll 2,000 acres in a program to reforest marginal cropland in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley by 2017, including 600 acres in the next six months.

Keith Ouchley, State Director for The Nature Conservancy in Louisiana said, "The Nature Conservancy's work in the Mississippi Delta is critically linked to finding win-win solutions for agricultural producers and the natural heritage of the region.

Read TNC's press release at <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/louisiana/newsroom/lmvgap-announcement.pdf>.

## **WORKSHOPS AND ONLINE SEMINARS**

### ***SEPTEMBER SYMPOSIUM: GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION LINKED TO PHYSICAL HEALTH***

The 2015 Geographic Health Equity Symposium, September 10 @ 8:00 a.m. through September 11 @ 12:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Downtown—Superdome in New Orleans, is the signature-training event that presents strategies to address tobacco and cancer health disparities through a geographic lens. 2015 marks the second year this event has taken place and has attracted academic and public health professionals, community wellness and substance abuse prevention coalitions, non-governmental organizations and youth from all around the country.

Find out more and register at <http://www.nohealthdisparities.org/event/2015-geographic-health-equity-symposium/>.

### ***ONENOAA SCIENCE SEMINARS***

The folks at OneNOAA have a host of seminars set for this summer, many focusing on the hot-button issues of climate change and drought. See their offerings and register at <http://www.nodc.noaa.gov/seminars/>.

### ***TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TRADE FAIR AND CONFERENCE***

Scheduled for May 5-6 at the Austin Convention Center, the Environmental Trade Fair and Conference is Texas' premier environmental education forum featuring topics such as the drought crisis, oil & gas, air quality, waste management, and many more.

View a draft agenda for the conference at <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/assistance/etfc/2015Program.pdf> and register at <http://www.tceqevents.com/TradeFair/>.

### ***ARCHIVED TEACHER WEBINARS AVAILABLE ON DEMAND AT CLIMATE CHANGE LIVE***

View Climate Change Live Webinars at your convenience at <http://climatechangelive.org/index.php?pid=199>. Webinar topics include Education Resources Highlights, Professional Development Programs for Climate Change Education, and Project Learning Tree and U.S. Forest Service GreenSchools! and GreenWorks! Action Grants for ClimateChangeLIVE Participants.

For additional resources, visit <http://climatechangelive.org/>.

## **LAGNIAPPE**

### ***NEW STEM SITE AIMS TO CONNECT FAMILIES, STUDENTS TO EDUCATION PROVIDERS***

Set to open soon, the Connectory website makes the connections to STEM learning opportunities that inspire young people to explore, discover, and create. The website is billed as a hub to help families find STEM education opportunities in their area and allow registered providers to add their events for families to find.

See <http://www.theconnectory.org/> for more information. Providers can set up their accounts now at <http://www.theconnectory.org/provider-portal>.

VENISE ORTEGO *Coordinator*  
(337) 948-0255 [vortego@wlf.la.gov](mailto:vortego@wlf.la.gov)

THOMAS GRESHAM *Assistant Coordinator*  
(225) 765-0124 [tgresham@wlf.la.gov](mailto:tgresham@wlf.la.gov)



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